

REMARKS

Claims in the case are 1-14, upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 13 and 14 have been added, Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-12 have been amended, and Claims 3 and 8 have been canceled herein.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-12 of the above-identified patent application have been amended as to form, for example, by introducing indefinite and definite articles, replacing "characterized in that" with --wherein--, and converting multi-dependent claims to singly dependent claims. Basis for added Claim 13 is found in original Claim 4, and at page 3, lines 27-28 of the specification. Basis for added Claim 14 is found in original Claim 7, and at page 3, lines 28-29 of the specification.

Page 1 of the application has been amended herein to introduce cross reference information. The cross reference information is presented in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2) (Federal Register / Vol. 65, No. 183 / Wednesday, September 20, 2000; Changes to Implement Eighteen-Month Publication of Patent Applications; Final Rule).

The title of the application has been changed to correspond with that of the related International Patent Publication No. WO 00/39200. The specification has been amended to include section headings. A brief description of the drawings has also been included in the specification. The heading of the claims section of the specification has been changed from "Patent Claims" to --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--. An abstract of the patent application is included herewith on a separate page.

The amendments presented herein do not represent the entry of new matter into the application. Applicants respectfully request entry of this preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION: (Marked-Up)

The following are additions and changes that have been made to the specification.

The title on lines 1 and 2 of page 1 of the specification has been amended as follows.

[Heat sealable multilayer film with peelable opening behaviour made from coextruded, biaxially oriented polypropylene]

EASY-TO-PEEL HEAT-SEALING MULTILAYER FILM FROM COEXTRUDED, BIAXIALLY ORIENTED POLYPROPYLENE

The following has been inserted between lines 2 and 5 on page 1 of the specification.

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

The present patent application claims the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 and 35 U.S.C. 365 of International Application No. PCT/EP99/09775, filed 10 December 1999, which was published in German as International Patent Publication No. WO 00/39200 on 6 July 2000, which is entitled to the right of priority of German Patent Application No. 198 59 689.9, filed 23 December 1998.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The following has been inserted at line 9 on page 1 of the specification.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The following has been inserted at line 20 on page 2 of the specification.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following has been inserted between lines 8 and 10 on page 3 of the specification.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a representation of, (a) a film, from which bar packaging can be prepared, having a continuous lateral lacquer strip, and (b) a film, from which cassette packaging can be prepared, having transversely arranged lacquer strips;

Fig. 2 is a representation of, (a) bar packaging prepared from a film having a continuous lacquer strip in the longitudinal direction, and (b) cassette packaging prepared from a film having transversely arranged lacquer strips; and

Fig. 3 is a representation of cups engraved by means of 60/1, 70/4, 80/1 and 70/1 gravure screens.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Line 1 on page 12 of the specification has been amended as follows.

[Patent Claims] WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

IN THE CLAIMS: (Marked-Up)

The following are versions of the amended claims with markings to show changes made thereto in the present Preliminary Amendment.

1. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) A [C]coextruded BOPP film with peelable sealing properties, [characterised in that] wherein the film is printed in a sealing area which has been left ink-free with a thermoplastic lacquer in a screen-type pattern, which lacquer [contains] comprises one of: (i) at least one polyvinyl butyral (PVB); [or] and (ii) at least one ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA copolymer) as the feature-determining solid component, [and is] said thermoplastic lacquer being only weakly sealable to coextruded BOPP.

2. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Films according to claim 1, characterised in that] the lacquer used is only weakly sealable to untreated coextruded BOPP surfaces and contains polyvinyl butyral (PVB) as

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the determining solid component.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that] the lacquer is a PVB lacquer and is applied at [an] a dry application rate [(dry)] of 0.1 to 1.7 g/m²[, preferably of 0.8 to 1.2 g/m²].

5. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that] the lacquer is applied with defined partial coverage and with full-tone gravure depth.

6. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to claim 1, characterised in that] the thermoplastic lacquer [used] is [thermoplastic and] sealable to unpretreated coextruded BOPP surfaces and [preferably contains] comprises saponified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer [synthetic resin (EVA copolymer)] as the feature-determining solid component.

7. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to claim 1 or 6, characterised in that] the lacquer is an EVA copolymer lacquer and is applied at [an] a dry application rate [(dry)] of 0.1 to 2.5 g/m²[, preferably of 1.0 to 1.5 g/m²].

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to one of claims 1 to 8, characterised in that the screen for application of] the lacquer is applied by means of a screen which is one of uniform [or] and variable over the length and width of the sealing area in order to meet differing seam strength requirements.

10. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to one of claims 1 to 9, characterised in that,] the film has an electrically pretreated side, and outside the sealing area, the film is printed on the electrically pretreated side by means of register-controlled gravure printing.

11. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The film of Claim 1 wherein [Film according to one of claims 1 to 10, characterised in that the ink-free sealing areas provided with] the lacquer of the ink-free sealing area [assume] is in the form of: (a) continuous strips on the edge of the film reel; or (b) of uniformly spaced transverse strips arranged transversely to the machine direction of the film reel.

12. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) A package [Packages] produced from [a] the film [according to one of claims 1 to 11] of Claim 1.

13. (Added) The film of Claim 1 wherein the lacquer is a PVB lacquer, which is applied at a dry application rate of 0.8 to 1.2 g/m².

14. (Added) The film of Claim 1 wherein the lacquer is an EVA copolymer lacquer, which is applied at a dry application rate of 1.0 to 1.5 g/m².

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(81) Bestimmungsstaaten: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO Patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), eurasisches Patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), europäisches Patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI Patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Veröffentlicht
Mit internationalem Recherchenbericht.

(54) Title: EASY-TO-PEEL HEAT-SEALING MULTILAYER FILM FROM COEXTRUDED, BIAXIALLY ORIENTED POLYPROPYLENE

(54) Bezeichnung: HEISSSIEGELBARE MEHRSCICHTFOLIE AUS COEXTRUDIERTEM, BIAXIAL ORIENTIERTEM POLYPROPYLEN MIT PEELBAREM AUFZIEHVERHALTEN

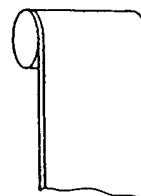
(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a coextruded BOPP film with easy-to-peel sealing properties which is printed in a non-linked sealing zone with a thermoplastic lacquer having a screen-type pattern. Said lacquer contains at least one polyvinyl butyral (PVB) or at least one ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA copo) as a feature-specific solid component. Said lacquer is only weakly sealable against coextruded BOPP. The spacing effect of said lacquer gradually decreases as the softening increases with rising temperatures. The invention further relates to packagings produced from said film.

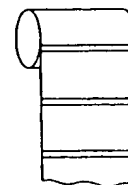
(57) Zusammenfassung

Coextrudierte BOPP-Folie mit peelbaren Siegeleigenschaften, die in einem farbfreibelassenen Siegelbereich rasterförmig mit einem thermoplastischen Lack bedruckt ist, der mindestens ein Polyvinylbutyral (PVB) oder mindestens ein Ethylen-Vinylacetat-Copolymerisat (EVA-Copo) als merkmalsbestimmende Feststoffkomponente enthält, nur schwach gegen coextrudiertes BOPP siegelbar ist und dessen Abstandshaltewirkung durch mit steigender Temperatur fortschreitende Erweichung sukzessiv abnimmt, und daraus hergestellte Verpackungen.

BAR PACKAGING, CONTINUOUS LATERAL SPECIAL LACQUER STRIP
Riegelverpackung, längs fortlaufende Speziallack-Bänderrolle



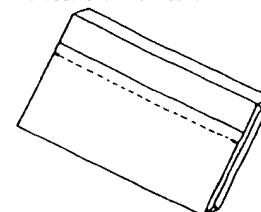
CASSETTE PACKAGING, REGISTER-CONTROLLED TRANSVERSELY ARRANGED STRIPS
Cassettverpackung, riegelweise angeordnete Speziallack-Bänderrollen



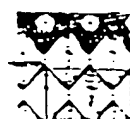
Riegelverpackung aus Folie mit fortlaufender Speziallack-Bänderrolle in Längsrichtung.
BAR PACKAGING FROM FILM WITH CONTINUOUS SPECIAL LACQUER STRIP IN THE LONGITUDINAL DIRECTION



Cassettverpackung aus Folie mit quer zur Laufrichtung angeordneten Speziallack-Bänderrollen.
CASSETTE PACKAGING FROM FILM WITH SPECIAL LACQUER STRIPS ARRANGED TRANSVERSELY TO THE LONGITUDINAL DIRECTION



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LEDIGLICH ZUR INFORMATION

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